The details of imports of agricultural commodities into Japan are given below:

(US $ Billion)

	1991	1992	1993
US	10.51	11.58	12.00
China	2.68	3.02	3.43
Taiwan	2.64	2.86	3.08
Australia	2.15	2.29	2.67
Thailand	1.93	2.16	2.23
Canada	1.98	2.14	2.13
Republic of Korea	1.55	1.57	1.56
Indonesia	0.90	0.91	1.10
France	1.14	1.12	1.09
Denmark	0.79	0.89	0.95
Others	8.98	9.56	9.92
TOTAL	32.35	38.10	40.16

(SOURCE: Embassy of India, Japan)

New Policy of Coffee Board

3507. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 797 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1994 and state:

(a) what mechanism will be introduced by the Coffee Board to provide coffee in the domestic market at rates prevalent earlier to the new policy of the Coffee Board;

(b) whether the new policy of the Coffee Board favours the planters and taxes the consumers; and

(c) whether Government will consider levying cess on export of coffee to subsidise the domestic price of coffee as the planters are making hudge profits and export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) As a measure to contain the rise in prices of coffee in the domestic market, the Govt. has recently directed the Coffee Board to release export permits not exceeding, 1,10,000 tonnes only for the period 1.1.94 to 31.12.94 and at a monthly quota not exceeding 5000 tonnes from Sept. to Dec., 94. The Coffee Board has also been directed not to permit export of C grades, BBB and Peaberry grades till further orders except in such cases for which valid applications had been received by the Board upto 5.8.94.

(b) The Free Sale Quota introduced recently is expected to minimise the intermediary & establishment costs of coffee marketing thereby benefiting both the consumers and the growers.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of Government at present to levy cess on export of coffee to subsidise its domestic price.

Pending Claims Under IPRS

3508. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of claims pending under the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) as on the 30th June, 1994;

(b) what steps have been taken to settle the pending claims;

(c) whether it is a fact that the claims relating to the year 1992 onwards from the industrial units in Tamil Nadu State are pending; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI